

We claim:

- 1           1.       An ear probe tip for the end of a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal,  
2       the ear probe tip comprising:  
3               a body portion having an inner surface, an outer surface, a first end and a  
4       second end, the inner surface defining a passage that extends the entire length of the body  
5       portion; and  
6               a plurality of flexible annular flanges disposed at spaced intervals on the outer  
7       surface of the body portion.
- 1           2.       The ear probe tip of claim 1 wherein the body portion is tube shaped.
- 1           3.       The ear probe tip of claim 1 wherein one of the plurality of flanges is located  
2       proximal the first end and is disposed on the body portion at a distance from the first end.
- 1           4.       The ear probe tip of claim 1 wherein the plurality of flexible annular flanges  
2       have increasingly larger diameters toward the second end.
- 1           5.       The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the plurality of flanges are disposed on  
2       the body portion at a backward angle toward the second end.
- 1           6.       The ear probe tip of claim 4 further comprising a means for pushing the tip  
2       onto the probe.
- 1           7.       The ear probe tip of claim 6 wherein the means for pushing the tip onto the  
2       probe is a ring disposed on the body portion proximal the second end.
- 1           8.       The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the body portion outer surface diameter  
2       increases along the length of the body portion toward the second end.
- 1           9.       The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the second end further includes a chamfer  
2       adjacent the body portion inner surface.
- 1           10.      The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the tube and the flanges are constructed  
2       of a transparent material.
- 1           11.      The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the tube and the flanges are constructed  
2       of alpha gary pvc 3019-40/45.
- 1           12.      The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the body portion inner surface is  
2       dimensioned to receive the probe end.
- 1           13.      The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the body portion first end outer diameter  
2       is between 0.140 and 0.185 inches.

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1           14.     The ear probe tip of claim 4 wherein the body portion first end inner surface  
2 further comprises a flange.

1           15.     An ear probe tip for the end of a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal,  
2 the ear probe tip comprising:

3                 a body portion having an inner surface, an outer surface, a first end and a  
4 second end, the inner surface defining a passage that extends the entire length of the body  
5 portion; and

6                 a means for creating an acoustical seal between the ear tip and the ear canal,  
7 disposed at spaced intervals on the outer surface of the body portion.

1           16.     -A method for acoustically sealing an ear canal with an ear probe tip positioned  
2 over a probe end which comprises the steps of:

3                 providing the ear probe tip;

4                 placing the ear probe tip substantially over the probe end whereby the probe  
5 end does not extend past the ear probe tip;

6                 inserting the probe end with the ear tip into the ear canal; and

7                 flexing the ear probe tip so that an acoustical seal forms between the ear probe  
8 tip and the ear canal.

1           17.     An ear probe tip for the end of a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal,  
2 said ear probe tip comprising:

3                 a body portion having an inner surface, an outer surface, a first end and a  
4 second end, the inner surface defining a passage that extends the entire length of the body  
5 portion; and

6                 at least one flexible annular flange disposed on the outer surface of the body  
7 portion.

1           18.     The ear probe tip of claim 17 wherein the at least one flange located proximal  
2 the first end is disposed on the body portion at a distance from the first end.

1           19.     The ear probe tip of claim 17 wherein the body portion outer surface diameter  
2 increases along the length of the body portion toward the second end.

1           20.     The ear probe tip of claim 17 wherein the at least one flange is disposed on the  
2 body portion at a backward angle toward the second end.

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1           21.     The ear probe tip of claim 17 wherein the inner surface diameter of the body  
2     portion increases in size along the length of the body portion toward the second end.

1           22.     The ear probe tip of claim 17 wherein the inner surface diameter of the body  
2     portion increases in size along the length of the body portion toward the second end and  
3     communicates with a cavity located proximal the second end.

1           23.     The ear probe tip of claim 22 further comprising a means for pushing the tip  
2     onto the probe.

1           24.     The ear probe tip of claim 23 wherein the means for pushing the tip onto the  
2     probe is a ring disposed on the body portion proximal the second end.

1           25.     An ear probe tip for the end of a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal,  
2     said ear probe tip comprising:

3                 a body portion having an inner surface, an outer surface, a first end and a  
4     second end, wherein the outer surface has a diameter which increases along the antecedent  
5     length of the body portion toward the second end; and

6                 a passage defined by the inner surface that extends substantially the length of  
7     the body portion.

1           26.     The ear probe tip of claim 25 wherein the passage has a diameter which  
2     increases from the first end to the second end.

1           27.     The ear probe tip of claim 26 further comprising a means for pushing the tip  
2     onto the probe.

1           28.     The ear probe tip of claim 27 wherein the means for pushing the tip onto the  
2     probe is a ring disposed on the body portion proximal the second end.

1           29.     The ear probe tip of claim 25 wherein the inner surface diameter of the body  
2     portion increases in size near the second end.

1           30.     An ear probe tip for the end of a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal,  
2     said ear probe tip comprising:

3                 a body portion having an inner surface, an outer surface, a first end and a  
4     second end, wherein the inner surface diameter of the body portion increases in size near the  
5     second end; and

6                 a ring disposed on the outer surface of the body portion proximal the second end.

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- 1           31.     The ear probe tip of Claim 30 further comprising at least one flexible annular
- 2     flange disposed on the outer surface of the body portion at a distance from the first end.

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